THE STATE OF MINNESOTA FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT-HENNEPIN COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

Contact:

NANCY PETERS
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

C-1251 GOVERNMENT CENTER 300 SOUTH SIXTH STREET MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55487 OFFICE: (612) 348-5022 FAX: (612) 348-2510

Nancy.Peters@courts.state.mn.us

Media Advisory

"Stop on Red" traffic tickets found to violate state statute; Hennepin County Violations Bureau halts collection of "Stop on Red" tickets

For immediate release

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (March 14, 2006) – The City of Minneapolis Ordinance allowing camera enforced intersections has been determined to violate state statute in a ruling issued today by Fourth Judicial District Court Judge Mark S. Wernick.

Camera enforced intersections, referred to as "Stop on Red" intersections, have photographic or video equipment that capture the image of a motor vehicle and its license plate as the vehicle violates a traffic control signal.

In response to today's ruling, the Violations Bureau of the Fourth Judicial District serving Hennepin County, has stopped accepting payment for "Stop on Red" traffic tickets. All open citations will be placed on hold pending an appeal by the City of Minneapolis. Until the appeal process is completed, the court will not process for collection any fine payment or take other action on any "Stop on Red" ticket. The Fourth Judicial District will contact individuals at the address listed on their ticket if further action is needed.

About the Violations Bureau

The Violations Bureau is a division of the Fourth Judicial District Court that handles most community violations and motor vehicle tickets issued in all cities in Hennepin County. Walk-in and phone services are available from 7:30-4:30 p.m. to answer questions, accept payments and set court dates. Tickets are paid at the second floor (Public Service Level) TVB counter. Tickets are contested at the Hearing Office on the first floor of the Government Center. TVB offices are also located in court facilities in Brooklyn Center, Minnetonka and Edina.

About the Fourth Judicial District

The State of Minnesota's Fourth Judicial District serves only Hennepin County and is the state's largest trial court. For the nearly 750,000 cases annually received, its mission is to provide a system of Justice that assures equal access for the fair and timely resolution of cases and controversies

Sixty-one judges, 15 referees serve and more than 550 staff serve in these courts: Civil, Criminal / Traffic (including Domestic Violence, Drug and the Community Impact and Property Calendars), Juvenile, Probate / Mental Health, Family, Housing and Conciliation. Fourth Judicial District judges and staff strive to offer an accessible, fair, courteous, efficient and innovative system of Justice for its communities.

Fourth Judicial District facilities in downtown Minneapolis are located at the Hennepin County Government Center, Public Safety Facility, Juvenile Justice Center, Family Justice Center and City Hall. The suburban court facilities are located in Brooklyn Center (Brookdale / Division II), Minnetonka (Ridgedale / Division III) and Edina (Southdale / Division IV). For more information, please visit our website at www.courts.state.mn.us.districts.fourth